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THE DIAL

A Semi-Monthly Journal of Literary Criticism, Discussion, and Information.

No. 402. MARCH 16, 1903. *Vol. XXXIV.*

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THE AUTHOR OF "JOHN INGLESANT."

The name of the late Mr. Shorthouse appears upon the title-pages of half a dozen books, but nine persons out of ten to whom his name means anything at all know him only as the author of "John Inglesant." The very titles of the later and slighter books have faded from the memory, but the solitary masterpiece given to the world by an absolutely unknown writer twenty-two years ago remains in the recollection of those who have read it, not as a name only, but as a collection of pictures and vivid impressions of the sort that become a permanent possession. There are many among those readers, no doubt, who have forgotten the author's name, there may be those who have forgotten the name of his titular hero; but even these can hardly have forgotten the account of the papal conclave and the plague at Naples, the Molinist philosophy of quietism, the sympathetic study of the English Cavalier, and the intimate revelation of life in seventeenth century Italy. We may have read many other works of fiction since, and the outline of "John Inglesant" may have grown dim in the retrospect, but its brilliancy and its spiritual content remain with us, and we never grow doubtful of its right to be held a part of English literature.

"Joseph Henry Shorthouse, manufacturer of sulphuric acid, etc., Birmingham." This, with a list of titles, and a statement that his favorite recreation is found in "books," is the information provided by "Who's Who." Neither the name nor the place nor the occupation is particularly suggestive of literature. So we might read in some similar handbook of Nathaniel Hawthorne that he was a gauger at the Boston custom house, surveyor of the port of Salem, and United States consul at Liverpool. These things do not seem to agree with "The Scarlet Letter" any more than Birmingham and sulphuric acid seem to agree with "John Inglesant." The moral appears to be that the free spirit of man will find self-expression under no matter how adverse an environment. We have brought Hawthorne into this discussion with deliberate intention, for Shorthouse recognized him as the supreme master in the species of composition to which "John Inglesant" belongs — "the philosophical romance." His tribute is paid in the following words: "There will at once occur to the reader's mind numerous works of fiction of the highest talent, where philosophical ideas have been introduced with surpassing effect. By Nathaniel Hawthorne this art was carried to such perfection that it is only with difficulty that we perceive how absolutely every character,

nay, every word and line, is subordinated to the philosophical idea of the book."

When "John Inglesant" came to a second edition, the author took occasion to prepare a prefatory statement of his aim in writing it. Philosophy in the guise of fiction was what of deliberate purpose he offered his readers, and this called for a method of treatment quite different from that employed by novelists of the ordinary sort. "In books where fiction is only used to introduce philosophy, I believe that it is not to be expected that human life is to be described simply as such. The characters are, so to speak, sublimated: they are only introduced for a set purpose, and having fulfilled this purpose, — were it only to speak a dozen words — they vanish from the stage. Nor is this so unlike real life as may at first appear. Human life, as revealed to most of us, does not group itself in stage effect, does not arrange itself in elaborate plot; and brilliant dialogue declares the glory of the author more frequently than it increases reality of effect. If fiction, therefore, is allowed to select and to condense from life, surely philosophy may do so too." Concerning this declaration of guiding principle we are constrained to say that the author did not altogether live up to it, for "John Inglesant" is far from being the abstract production that he would have us believe. It has no small degree of warmth, and color, and dramatic effectiveness, and just because it is possessed of these qualities it is a better book than it would have been had Mr. Shorthouse held fast to the logic of his doctrinaire philosophy of fiction.

"John Inglesant" is a historical novel in the sense that it introduces the figures of men who have played real parts in history, and that its scene is set in a definite historical period. But it is very unlike the novel that is ordinarily styled historical, because it penetrates so much farther beneath the surface of life. The fault of the common historical novel is, as Mr. Shorthouse suggests, that the romance outweighs the history; and it is a further fault that what history is vouchsafed us concerns only the trappings and the suits of the period, leaving its spirit unrevealed. "All that is wanted," he tells us, "to constitute a historical romance of the highest interest is the recovery of the detailed incidents of everyday life, and the awakening of the individual need and striving, long since quiet in the grave." This is the sort of historical romance that we find in "John Inglesant," a story of the spiritual life essentially, a story that we instinctively classify, because we find it in some way comparable, with such diverse masterpieces as "I Promessi Sposi," and "Wilhelm Meister," and "La Chartreuse de Parme," and "The Cloister and the Hearth." To name a more recent analogue, we might mention Mrs. Wharton's "The Valley of Decision." We do not read these books, nor do we read "John Inglesant," primarily for the story that is told; we read them rather because they interpret for us the modes of thought and the spiritual currents of other times and places. They are studies in the history of culture rather than pleasant imaginings about private individuals.

It is such books as these that redeem fiction from the reproach of catering to the mere entertainment of the reader, and that justify it as the typical form of modern literary art. Fiction has much to answer for, no doubt, in the way of sensationalism, and pettiness, and morbid imagination, and false idealism. But a book like "John Inglesant" shows that the writing of novels may be also one of the noblest forms of artistic and ethical endeavor. And the high mission of the serious novelist has not often found as fine an exemplification as in this very book, or as beautiful a statement as in this reply of the author to the sneer implied in the words: "It is only a romance." "True. It is only human life in the 'highways and hedges,' and in 'the streets and lanes of the city,' with the ceaseless throbbing of its quivering heart; it is only daily life from the workshop, from the court, from the market, and from the stage; it is only kindliness and neighborhood and child-life, and the fresh wind of heaven, and the waste of sea and forest, and the sunbreak upon the starless peaks, and contempt of wrong and pain and death, and the passionate yearning for the face of God, and woman's tears, and woman's self-sacrifice and devotion, and woman's love. Yes, it is only a romance. It is only the ivory gates falling back at the fairy touch. It is only the leaden sky breaking for a moment above the bowed and weary head, revealing the fathomless Infinite through the gloom. It is only a romance."

Those who have come under the spell of this masterpiece of philosophical and historical fiction will doubtless wish to know the other work of Mr. Shorthouse. There are five volumes of these minor writings. "The Little Schoolmaster Mark," "Sir Percival," "Countess Eve," "A Teacher of the Violin, and Other Tales," and "Blanche, Lady Falaise." The note of spir-

ituality is dominant in them all, and tends to become so refined as to escape from ordinary human limitations. This is particularly true in the case of "Sir Percival," which teaches how, even under the conditions of modern life, the quest of the Grail may still be pursued. But these books are trifles in comparison with "John Inglesant." Of that masterpiece we are glad to note the stately three-volume edition which has just been published, and which gives a worthy setting to its contents. It remains to be said that Mr. Shorthouse was born in 1834, and was thus in his sixty-ninth year at the time of his death.

OUTLINE OF LINCOLN LITERATURE.

The recent appearance of Nicolay's "Short Life of Abraham Lincoln," — the more purely biographical portion of Nicolay and Hay's great work, "Abraham Lincoln, a History," — fitly completes, to date, the tale of immense *Lincolniana* already in print, and suggests an inquiry into the rise and progress of this remarkable literature. For its very beginnings we need to go back only a little more than forty years.

In an oration delivered before the Society of the Army of the Potomac, in October, 1899, by Major Lambert of Philadelphia, and subsequently printed, the following interesting bit of Lincoln chronology is established: "In a book published in New York in 1859, entitled 'Presidential Candidates,' containing sketches of prominent candidates for the Presidency in 1860, sketches are given of twenty-one distinguished men; in another, entitled 'Our Living Representative Men,' published in Philadelphia in 1860, thirty-four memoirs are given; in neither of these books is Abraham Lincoln named, except incidentally in one of the sketches of Douglas, where allusion is made to the defeat of the former."

Of these fifty-five formerly distinguished names, by far the larger number lie impacted in dictionaries which record a brief digest of their respective public careers; while the obscure individual so casually mentioned in connection with the great men of his day, and who before long was to do things undreamed of, comes to figure, some forty years later, as the subject of one of the fullest personal bibliographies known.

The earliest collection of *Lincolniana* is probably that of Mr. William V. Spencer, who published at Boston, in 1865, a quarto volume of some 350 pages of sermons, eulogies, letters, and publications on Mr. Lincoln's death. Following this, the next year, came the work of the Rhode Island scholar and bibliographer, John Russell Bartlett, with his "Literature of the Rebellion; a Catalogue of Books and Pamphlets Relating to the Civil War in the U. S., and on Subjects Growing out of that Event, Together with Works on American Slavery, and Essays and Reviews from Magazines on the same Subject." In this collection there are 81 title-entries relating to Lincoln, comprising a few of his own speeches, messages, and debates; a meagre record of his public life and policy; those of the early biographies which had come to the compiler's notice; a group of proceedings of cities, towns, and public bodies, on the occasion of his death; and lately, in a separate list, a catalogue of 300 commemorative eulogies, sermons, orations, and poems.

The next in point of time is the "Memorial Lincoln Bibliography" issued by Andrew Boyd, at Albany, New York, in 1870. This work is in two distinct parts. The second part is merely a catalogue of a collection owned by the publisher, consisting of prints, medals, handbills, commemorative miscellany of all sorts, such as decorative badges for special occasions, and the like, — matter of no especial literary interest. The first part is the real *Bibliographia Lincolniana*, being a somewhat annotated bibliography of the literature of the collection, — eulogies, orations, etc., set forth with fitting introduction by the compiler, Mr. Charles Henry Hart. In Joseph Sabin's monumental "Dictionary of Books Relating to America," Volume X., which contains several pages of references to works about Lincoln, the title "Bibliographia Lincolniana," with notes and introduction by C. H. Hart, has the following *naive* comment appended thereto: "Includes most of the titles contained in Andrew Boyd's work on the same subject." The latter has the simple entry, "A Memorial Lincoln Bibliography by Andrew Boyd," with nothing to indicate Mr. Hart's collaboration; and when the latter's reprint of his catalogue was published, the mere juxtaposition of titles in the Sabin catalogue did not disclose their real relationship.

This early work of Mr. Hart's, prepared with such care and fulness in gathering material which might otherwise never have been recovered, has contributed to the increased value of the next most comprehensive publication of its kind, "Lincoln Literature, a Bibliographical Account of Books and Pamphlets Relating to Abraham Lincoln, Compiled by Daniel Fish, Member and Secretary Public Library Board, Minneapolis, Minn.; Published by the Board, 1900." This is an unbound book of 135 pages, royal octavo, in an attractive paper cover, and contains over 800 full titles, occasionally annotated, of books and pamphlets which have ever appeared as distinct issues. An interesting variety of foreign titles appear: In French, 14; nearly twice as many in German; a few each of Italian and Spanish; one Welsh, one Japanese, one Russian, and a translation of a popular life into modern Greek. Limiting the effort to separate publications excludes, of course, some of the most valuable material, as many of the best tributes to Lincoln lie embedded in an author's "Complete Works"; magazine articles also indexed in "Poole" are not referred to. But these exclu-

sions do not rob this work of its chief distinction, which lies in the volume and variety of writings about a man unknown to fame six years before his death, and who was never known in public life aside from one great question. What manner of man was this to evoke a literature so copious, so universal, and finally so unanimous? For one of the obvious characteristics of the collection is the meagre record left upon its pages of the violently hostile criticism belonging to the early sixties. Volumes of it can be found, it is true, in the files of the war-time newspapers. But of the bitterly arrogant opinion upon the conduct of the war, with which the atmosphere was charged even at the capital city itself, few traces remain. Mrs. Julia Ward Howe has preserved for us the flavor of much of the usual speech of the day in her book of reminiscences. Writing of the common estimate of Lincoln in the autumn of '61, she says:

"Few people praised or trusted him. Why did he not do this, or that, or the other? He a President, indeed! Look at this war, dragging on so slowly! Look at our many defeats and rare victories! Such was the talk that one constantly heard regarding him. The most charitable held that he meant well."

But to return to the obscurity of 1859,— considerably less an obscurity in Illinois, however, than in the Eastern publishing centres. The leading events of Lincoln's life from '58 to '60 can be picked out and strung on a very small inch of string. These were, the defeat for the Senate in 1858; the suggestion for the Presidency by an Illinois editor in 1859; the three years of speech-making from 1858 to 1860. Upon the untried occasion of the Cooper Institute speech, the dean of American letters, William Cullen Bryant, well within the limits of a conservative truthfulness, introduced the speaker as "an eminent citizen of the West, hitherto known to you only by reputation."

With 1860, however, and the accepted fact of Lincoln's candidacy for the office of President, a number of impromptu biographies scrambled into print. Most of these were campaign documents, written chiefly by newspaper men of experience, and not without merit in their brief fidelity to fact. For Lincoln's public career had offered so little, aside from his one term of service in Congress and his speech-making on a single theme, that the original material was easily mastered, his simple record presenting none of the stumbling-blocks in the path of one whose task it is to write of a long and sometimes wavering political career.

These early biographies were usually duodecimos in the ordinary newspaper print of that day. They bore upon their paper covers varying and utterly dissimilar likenesses of the candidate, in the form of dingy woodcuts. The engraver's effort to impose upon his subject all the air of distinction which the seasoned statesman is expected to carry is quite apparent.

Of these early volumes, five appeared anonymously in 1860; a number probably belonging to the same year have no imprint date; and of the remainder, four are accredited respectively to J. H. Barrett, D. W. Bartlett, William D. Howells, and John Locke Scripps. Of these authors, Bartlett was Washington correspondent of the New York "Independent" and the "Evening Post," and was afterward known in a modest way as a writer of books which are still read. If J. H. Barrett achieved a subsequent fame, the anonymity of the double initial remains undisclosed. Mr. Howells's reputation has been gleaned in such different fields that few people, even among those counting themselves familiar with the facts of his career, ever recall this early work which appeared in the same year with "Poems by Two Friends." The Scripps life was published anonymously as No. 6 of "Tribune Tracts," the campaign literature put forth by the New York "Tribune" in the days when Horace Greeley was an aggressive Lincoln man. The author was at that time editor of the Chicago "Press and Tribune." At the date of publication, the pamphlet was sold at twenty dollars a thousand. It is now very scarce, a single copy having lately brought ten dollars. In 1900 this brochure was reprinted in a very attractive form by the Cranbrooke Press, Detroit, and claimed on its title-page to be the "first published life of Abraham Lincoln," a statement which obviously conflicts with the accepted belief that the anonymous "Wigwam edition" of Rudd & Carleton was the first. Since Judge Fish's Bibliography was issued, however, an overlooked biography by J. Q. Howard, published in Columbus by the Follett & Foster Company in 1860, has come to light, and may on close investigation prove to be the first. The preface of the latter is dated June, 1860. Thus began, in this comparatively light-hearted and irresponsible fashion, a series of writings upon a theme soon to expand into immeasurable dignity and importance.

In the following four years, during which history was made by the sword and not by the pen, naturally the printed records of the time are concentrated upon military and diplomatic questions for the full understanding of which recourse must be had to the literature of the Rebellion. But in this more purely personal literature little appears beyond a few isolated monographs, occasionally objecting to the war measures, and sometimes enjoining the duty of loyal support of the President's course. But with April, 1865, the biographical treatment begins in earnest. It would be interesting indeed to have a composite analysis of the volumes of sermons preached upon that memorable Easter Sunday, and upon subsequent fast days. What a tribute of mourning there was! And how the eyes of the people were opened, now that his mortal life had passed! Those who had clamored for a leader who should sweep all before him with the majesty of the whirlwind and the fire, were now hearing for the first time the voice of a strong and an honest man, and were not ashamed to go aside and wrap their faces in the mantle of self-reproach.

Some of the memorial volumes were in a differ-

ent key. A shower of hurriedly prepared "Lives" poured over the country upon the death of the President. Many of them make their appeal to a class of readers who never take their history except in a series of shocks. Vociferous titles of a number of them begin with the lurid word "Assassination" in bold type, recite the general contents in show-bill fashion throughout the length of the page, and frequently, in conclusion, depart from the subject, after the centrifugal habit of the uneducated, by a general discussion of all known assassins.

So full a bibliography as this is necessarily, in effect, and to a degree, stamped with the manner of thought and habit of the people who make the record; consequently a few of the aberrations of our national walk and conversation are revealed in its pages. Some of them are almost grotesque, others only odd or fanciful; all of them are characteristic of the feeble historic sense which uses the great facts of history merely as serviceable wires upon which fluttering fads of doctrine or experience alight sparrow-like and are gone. For instance, on page 80 of the "Lincoln Literature" we have an entry setting forth the "Interior Causes of the War; the Nation Demonized, and its President a Spirit-rapper; by a Citizen of Ohio"; also, "Africanus I.; his Secret Life, as Revealed under the Mesmeric Influence." A publisher of phrenological material undertakes to explain the character and constitution of Lincoln and Grant in accordance with the principles of phrenology; and an anonymous prophet demonstrates that Abraham Lincoln was the "Gog of the Bible, as foretold by the prophet Ezekiel in the XXXVIII. and XXXIX. chapters of his Book of Prophecy; the Thirteen Confederate States shown to be the mountains of Israel, and all the predictions contained in the Prophecy concerning them literally fulfilled in the late War between the North and South." This was no longer ago than 1868.

One opportune humorist announces "Old Abe's jokes, fresh from Abraham's Bosom; containing all his issues, excepting the Greenbacks, to call in some of which this work is issued." An inquiry into the "Religious Faith of those engaged in the Conspiracy that Resulted in the Assassination of President Lincoln" is really a lecture on Romanism delivered to an audience probably already too much engrossed with an unprofitable prejudice. One Confederate temperance-tract makes the sorrowful admission: "Better had we bowed the neck to Lincoln's yoke than made ourselves the willing slaves of grovelling passions and depraved appetites!" This suggests the description of Abraham Lincoln given to General Meade's nephew, the Honorable John S. Wise, by his schoolmaster, who was perfectly sincere in instructing his pupil that the republican candidate was, "in his origin, of that class of low whites who hate gentlemen because they are gentlemen; how, in personal appearance, he was more like a gorilla than a human being," and that he had gone "far beyond other leaders in advocacy of radical measures against slavery, and in abuse of the South." And, adds the well-bred Southern lad who lived to write "The End of an Era," "that settled Abraham Lincoln with me."

Only a very few copies of "Lincoln Literature" remain unsold. The work has already attained at book-sales the distinction of a "scarce first edition." Should a second edition be in contemplation, it might be prefaced most fittingly by such a critical and biographical sketch as the one with which Ford, for instance, introduces his "Franklin Bibliography."

The approaching centennial of Lincoln's birth should present unusual opportunities to the reading public for fresh and vigorous study of Lincoln's life and work, together with a renewed interest in the Civil War and all that its results mean to us. Would not the anniversary year be most appropriately welcomed, and its observance put to the most patriotic use, if all interested students could have at their disposal such a well-arranged guide to their readings as Justin Winsor's "Readers' Handbook of the American Revolution," which itself was a result of the centennial interest in American independence? If the history of our country from 1858 to 1865 could be set forth chronologically, after the manner of the Winsor "Handbook," with reference to sources and to second-hand authorities, and with full valuation of the biographies, so that readers would know what the Arnold, Holland, Lamon, Herndon, Morse, Nicolay and Hay, and Tarbell "Lives" stand for, an exceedingly useful service would be rendered which should result in a great uplift of public intelligence. A second edition of the "Lincoln Literature" itself might be rearranged and recast on lines which would include the best features of both the Ford "Franklin Bibliography" and the Winsor "Handbook." A new edition, too, would include considerable material which has appeared since January, 1901.

Many of Lincoln's contemporaries gave utterance to the fear that the Lincoln history would fade into a Lincoln myth. There is no danger of that kind of intellectual atavism. So long as we are free from such "battles of crows and kites" as afflict our South American neighbors, we may go about our various duties with a thankful and reverent cherishing of the Lincoln spirit in our national life.

LINA BROWN REED.

THE EMERSON CENTENARY.

It is so short a time since the death of Emerson, and the impression of him as a living force among us is still so vivid, that it is hard to realize that the centenary of his birth is close at hand. The date of this event is May 25; and it will be fitly celebrated by Emerson societies and similar associations throughout the country. The most interesting of these events will doubtless be that at Emerson's home-town, Concord, where there will be addresses

by Senator Hoar, Colonel Higginson, Professor Charles Eliot Norton, and others; and on the preceding evening, Sunday, there will be a memorial observance in Symphony Hall, Boston, under the auspices of a large citizens' committee, with an address by President Eliot, a poem by Prof. George E. Woodberry, and choral music. The Free Religious Association, of which Emerson was one of the founders and vice-presidents, will devote the principal session of its annual convention in May to the subject of Emerson's Religious Influence. The after-dinner speeches at the evening festival will also for the most part take the form of tributes to Emerson's memory. Several of his old friends and associates will be among the speakers. The Association is arranging, also, for an Emerson Memorial School of Conference, for three weeks in July, beginning Monday the 13th. The morning sessions of the school will be held in Concord and the evening sessions in Boston. There will be thirty lectures in all, in which the various aspects of Emerson's great work and influence will be treated by the ablest scholars and thinkers who can be associated for the purpose. Special Sunday services, with sermons or addresses by eminent lovers of Emerson, will also be arranged both in Boston and Concord. Other similar events will doubtless be announced, and the whole effect cannot fail to be a reviving and freshening of the influence of our great Yankee idealist, very wholesome in our unspiritual times.

COMMUNICATION.

POE AND ARISTOTLE.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

In Mr. Moore's admirable and acute discussion of "Poe's Place as a Critic," published in THE DIAL of February 16, the writer dwells at considerable length on one of Poe's critical dicta, namely, that there can be no long poem in the nature of things. "The nature of things" is a loose phrase; he meant, probably, the natural powers of attention and memory. Mr. Moore objects that Poe has left us in doubt as to what measure of length he would fix in strictly defining a poem. Poe was apt to be whimsical and vague in criticism, but sometimes he hit the nail on the head. I think he had already anticipated the impatience of modern readers of poetry, as well as of poets themselves. Perhaps he was also thinking of the time when poetry was recited; which would naturally imply a time-limit. If he had said no long poems are now written and no one has time or mind to attend to them, he would have come near the truth. The longest poem has now the shortest life. And if read, it is for the purpose of finding and enjoying its gems, its striking passages. These, if really great, are soon disengaged and re-set as specimens, and are gathered at last into anthologies. Poe therefore laid down a rule in accordance with popular taste, possibly to cover his own work, and to justify his never attempting a poem of any length.

It used to be urged upon poets who attained some fame in verse, that for the completion of their reputation, or for the honor of their country, their work should be crowned with one supreme effort, — if possible, an epic on a great theme. And poets themselves seem to have been impelled by the same desire for Aristotle's "certain magnitude" in their works. Yet I cannot quite agree with Mr. Moore in his application of Aristotle's "magnitude" as referring to the length of a poem. Is not Mr. Moore here speaking of long poems in distinction from short ones? Unless I mistake, he is. But in the place where Aristotle employs the expression "certain magnitude," chapter seven of the *Poetics*, he is not discussing length or quantity of poems. He is speaking only of tragedy; and he means by magnitude simply a consistent action, perfect and whole, — or, as we might express it, a large, beautiful, and orderly arrangement and treatment of the theme, and only long enough to be easily remembered. Aristotle expressly says that length with reference to dramatic representation does not fall under the consideration of art. In short, as I understand Aristotle he is not referring to poetry in general but to the construction of tragedies.

Yet there can be no doubt that in the classic period of Greek literature long poems were held in higher estimation than short ones. Lyrical and occasional verse had also its place of honor, — Pindar, Sappho, and many others, being as popular poets as Homer. In Aristotle's comment on magnitude it must be remembered that he refers solely to tragedies. As these were sometimes in the form of trilogies, he had to take into account magnitude, or length, and explain its propriety, — not as mere length but as duration of time in the action; yet to this he denies any part in artistic theory.

I would like to add to the list of great and authoritative critics cited by Mr. Moore, Goethe, who has left a larger though scattered body of purely literary criticism than either Aristotle or Lessing. And he is at one with Poe, in both theory and practice, in regard to long poems, if we leave out, as we ought, his dramatic works. For by a long poem I apprehend we mean such as "The Faërie Queene," "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained," "Roman de la Rose," "The Divine Comedy," and the works of Homer and Virgil. It is to be noticed in all long poems, that when closely analysed they consist largely of episodes, — as if the authors realized that the reader's attention and memory could not be relied on to carry him through without a break. All long poems with which I am acquainted may be resolved into short ones, and were so resolved in the more ancient times when recited; and thus I think Poe was right in his philosophy in saying that in the nature of things — that is, in the constitution of the poet and of the hearer or reader, and for the perfect effects of poetry, including the shock of delighted surprise and the fixing in the memory, — there can be no long poems. Of course, Poe never intended to include dramatic composition in his dictum. There is where length — or, in Aristotle's word, "magnitude," — has its appropriate place and rights; unless, as in Lessing's story, the "characters die of the Fifth Act."

Allow me to conclude with a line from a poet who was also a master critic, Horace; and to translate it into the vernacular:

"Verum operi longo fas est obrepere somnum."

(If you must read your long poem, don't take offense if I go to sleep occasionally.)

JOHN ALBEE.

Pequaket, N. H., March 7, 1903.

The New Books.

Democracy and Political Parties.*

Democratic institutions have had attention, to the neglect of the political forces from which they have derived their life. Men have so busied themselves in spreading the machinery of democratic government over the world that they have not stopped to inquire whether democracy and its machinery are one. Indeed, to many the test of democracy itself is the efficiency of the machinery of democratic government. It was quite time to consider whether permanent political parties, having power as their end, with general contracts to solve all political problems as they arise, are essential to democratic government. Mr. M. Ostrogorski, a Russian who has long resided in Paris, in two large volumes entitled "Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties," sets forth with great clearness the results of a most exhaustive investigation of this question.

Mr. James Bryce, in a preface to the book, notes that no one has produced a treatise

"containing a systematic examination and description of the structure of parties as organizations governed by settled rules and working by established methods. Even in the United States, where party organization early attained a completeness and effective power unapproached in any other country, I could not find, when in 1883 I began to study and was seeking to portray the institutions of that country, any account of the very remarkable and well-compacted scheme of organization which had been at work there for forty or fifty years; and noted that among even the best-educated men there were few who had mastered its details."

Mr. Ostrogorski, in his preface, states it to be his purpose to "investigate the working of democratic government," and adds, "But it is not on political forms, it is on political forces that I dwell." He holds that

"The best way to study political forces is to study political methods; . . . to really understand the character of social action, its modes of procedure must be studied in the light of the character of those who apply them, and of the social and political conditions in which their wills are formed and manifested. It is only in this sense that the investigation of political methods will have, in addition to a philosophical value, a genuine practical value. It is a study of the methods of democratic government conceived in this spirit, a study of social and political psychology, based on observation, that I have tried to undertake, and it is that which is the aim of this book."

The author has indeed succeeded in his purpose of

"putting together a whole, which, under the form of a scientific investigation, alike historical and critical, of the *régime* of organized parties, is in reality an investigation of the working of government in democracy, and of the vital problems which it puts before existing society and which involve the whole future of our political civilization."

In pursuit of this great purpose, Mr. Ostrogorski has made a most painstaking and thorough study, extending over many years, of party organization and party action in both England and the United States. These countries were chosen, because in them liberty has attained its highest development; and because there political parties exhibit the greatest regularity of action. Though in England the organization of parties founded on a popular basis was more recent than in the United States, the author found there an excellent starting-point for his investigations.

The book opens with a striking and comprehensive view of "The Old Unity"; of a political society, organized on the basis of aristocracy; of the absolute domination of an aristocratic class. This is followed by an equally strong and clear description of the break-up of the old society; of the advent of democracy, shattering in its course "a social fabric which was too narrow to contain the national life"; of the exaltation of the individual; of the assertion by the many of the right of self-government. Then comes an account of the attempts at reaction against the rising tide of individualism; of the effort of the Church to restore the old unity; of the Oxford movement, which, starting under the banner of authority and tradition, "succeeded in proving that liberty is, after all, the safest principle of conduct in modern society"; of the "Young England" movement "to combat the destruction of the old political creed which knit classes and individuals together"; of the war waged by Thomas Carlyle against "the new social system bred of Benthamism and industrialism," due to his contempt for and hatred of democracy; of the Christian Socialist movement to oppose the principle of free competition by means of industrial associations.

The author next describes "The Triumph of the New Order," the realization of individualism in the sphere of politics. With the passing of the domination of an aristocratic class and the substitution of numbers as the supreme power in the state, a new danger appeared. The newly emancipated individual ran the

*Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties. By M. Ostrogorski. Translated from the French by Frederick Clarke. With a preface by James Bryce. In two volumes. New York: The Macmillan Co.

risk of being crushed by numbers. It was not enough for him to share sovereignty with his fellows. If he would participate in the government, he had to find some extra-legal means of coöperation with others seeking similar ends. If he would realize his objects in society and the state, he must come to an understanding with his fellow citizens.

Liberty emancipated the individual. The preservation of liberty itself called for the union of individual efforts. Hence arose political parties. Here lies the field which Mr. Ostrogorski has explored with a thoroughness all his own. No such examination of the extra-legal coöperation which has supplied motive power to democratic government has before been attempted. The book is a veritable storehouse of facts. Many of its chapters are purely descriptive. Take, for example, the chapter entitled "The National Convention." This masterly description of the vast and tumultuous assemblages, in which quadrennially, the party champions are chosen, is complete even to the smallest accessories. One who has never even heard of these modern olympics can see, as he reads, the colossal travesties of popular institutions from whence issue the names of those to whom our choice of a chief magistrate is limited. Without fear or favor, the author clearly states the results of the most searching personal investigations, extending over some fifteen years, into the organization and action of political parties in England and America. Holding his conclusions well in reserve until he has fully set forth the facts, he has given the descriptive parts of his work the force of a judicial finding.

Mr. Bryce is not wholly pleased with Mr. Ostrogorski's picture of party organization in England. While frankly conceding the author's description to be on the whole both accurate and fair, that taken one by one the facts stated are almost always correctly stated, he thinks that the author exaggerates the power and poison of the Caucus and does not sufficiently allow for the healthy influences that tend to correct the dangers its growth may involve. However, Mr. Bryce proceeds to break the force of his "word of caution." He says: "I am myself an optimist, almost a professional optimist, as indeed politics would be intolerable were not a man grimly resolved to see between the clouds all the blue sky he can." He adds: "Party organization is a totally different thing in England from what it is in the United States. It is in the hands of a different class of men."

The word of caution uttered by Mr. Bryce touching Mr. Ostrogorski's picture of English partyism will be repeated here with reference to the vast canvas whereon he has painted American partyism with all its deformities. Already an American critic has said: "He does not mean to exaggerate, and nearly every statement, taken by itself, is substantially correct. Yet, admitting the several parts of the argument, one finds himself objecting to the whole."

It is not enough that one who admits that every line is correctly drawn shall object to the picture as a whole. He must point out some omission or want of proportion, if his objection is to have weight. Has Mr. Ostrogorski omitted anything essential from his picture of partyism in the United States? Do its lines betray any material lack of proportion? Is it overcharged with gloom? Gloomy it unquestionably is, as Mr. Bryce remarks. Yet one will search in vain for any important omission from the author's description of our party machinery and of our party methods. He has faithfully examined and correctly described their every detail of construction, their every mode of action; and he has summarized with substantial accuracy the results. His most obvious error lies in his underestimate of the benefits that have resulted from the introduction of the Australian ballot. Had he been in America in 1888, as well as in 1896, Mr. Ostrogorski would have realized more fully than he does the value of this reform. Its value becomes even more clear with every passing year.

There is a factor, indefinite but real, for which Mr. Ostrogorski has not sufficiently allowed. This is public opinion. Over all our political activities broods a public opinion which nearly always restrains and sometimes directs. The wholesome fear of it usually entertained among politicians accounts for the fact, noted by Mr. Ostrogorski, that from the nominees of our national conventions the people have chosen a line of Presidents who, "if they have not all been great men, — far from it, — were all honorable men." The influence of public opinion cannot be measured. Mr. Ostrogorski notes some of its affirmative triumphs in the passage of the civil service, the Australian ballot, and recent monetary laws. It is not strange that a foreign student should fail fully to realize its value as a restraining force and as a ground of hope. The marvel is that he has so completely mastered and so justly appraised what may be really known of our political methods. The scientific investigator may be excused from

appraising what may not be examined. Each reader, according to his vision, will, with Mr. Bryce, see what blue sky he can between the clouds of party politics.

Mr. Ostrogorski passes from party organization and the evils of permanent political parties, to a survey of our struggles for emancipation since the Civil War, and to a discussion of remedies. As the years pass, voluntary associations, alliances, committees, federations, and leagues appear; "scratchers," "mugwumps," and "independents" multiply. The sporadic committee organized to crush this boss, or to smash that machine, at length gives place to the compact league of independent voters having a definite common purpose. Men, emancipated from a party bondage which held them while special interests despoiled a continent of vast public resources, gradually unite in a wide co-operation to rescue their government from party spoilsmen.

Thus far the movement against the evils of party domination has been largely confined to the sphere of municipal government. Here the need was more obvious, but not more real, than in the state and nation.

"Yet the independent movements which have taken place in the sphere of the national parties have not remained unfruitful. If nonpartisanship has made such strides in the municipal field, this is owing to their dissolvent action; mugwumpism, too weak to produce ravages in the national parties, penetrated into the municipal sphere following the lines of least resistance. . . . However, the national political life itself did not wholly escape the new notions about the independence of the elector's conscience . . . ; these notions pervaded the political atmosphere, exercising a subtle and deleterious influence on the traditional sentiments of party loyalty."

More important than its immediate results, the movement which thus far has found its main expression in the sphere of municipal reform has introduced new methods of public action, methods which may stamp or even determine the future of democracy. But the best political methods require the motive power supplied by an aggressive public spirit. Too few are yet imbued with this spirit.

"There is a sincere desire to see the machines and bosses disappear, but people would like this result to be obtained, if possible, in an automatic way, so to speak, which would make up for personal exertion. There is, therefore, a tendency to look to the legislator to arrange the legal machinery in such a fashion as to defeat the enemies of good government."

The constituted authorities have become, under party domination, more and more unequal to their official duties. The leaders of opinion rarely seek or occupy public station. The initiative has passed even from Congress. It acts on impulses coming from without. It legislates, as to many matters, by direction of special interests; it registers, as to matters of peculiar public interest, the legislation of voluntary organizations of private citizens. How great has been the change from other days, is indicated by a single illustration. The demoralization of the finances due to the Civil War, having been allowed by Congress to continue for a generation, a national conference of private citizens finally initiated a remedial measure. Think of an Indianapolis Conference to prepare financial legislation when Alexander Hamilton or Salmon P. Chase was secretary of the treasury!

Modern society, when it came into possession of liberty, placed its chief reliance on parliaments. It sought to escape tyranny by hedging its executives about with legal restraints. Disappointed by a bitter experience, due at least in large part to the usurpations of party, it has turned for relief to a powerful executive supported by the negative authority of the courts. Dictators, from the Speaker of the House down to mayors of cities, find themselves possessed of the chief powers of government. Private initiative having detected and punished official malfeasance, cleansed the streets, secured public works, and framed legislation, found itself unable steadily and effectively to check the spoliation of the people by powerful groups of citizens acting impersonally as quasi-public corporations.

"To obtain more durable and more regular effects than could be achieved by these spasmodic efforts, attempts were made to straighten the relaxed governmental spring by main force; inadequacy of action being mistaken for inadequacy of powers, the latter were concentrated in the hands of a few persons."

This leads Mr. Ostrogorski, in his conclusion, to propose a remedy for existing evils. He regards permanent political parties, having power as their end, a mortal danger to democracy.

"The great parties, viewed as a whole, have been throughout their career nothing but agglomerates artificially brought together and kept together. . . . Always endeavoring to throw a veil over divergences of views and to eliminate principles, it substituted for the process of analysis and synthesis of opinions, which ought to take place in the electorate to create a legislative assembly animated by one mind and one will, a purely artificial analysis and synthesis, obtained by the saving grace of the party label. As soon as the manifold interests jumbled together under this label got admitted into the House, they naturally reverted to their own particular aspirations."

The sole concern of the party being to manage the elections and win the spoils of victory, it

did nothing to repress these centrifugal tendencies. The result was, in large measure, the paralysis of representative government. That individual rights have survived is due to the simplicity and limited scope of government in the United States and the constitutional guarantees of liberty which everywhere prevail,— in a word, to the remarkable success of written constitutions imposing limitations on government.

The author would substitute for permanent political parties, with power as their end, temporary combinations of citizens formed specially for particular political issues.

"Party, as a general contractor for the numerous and varied problems present and to come, awaiting solution, would give place to special organizations, limited to particular objects. It would cease to be a medley of groups and individuals united by a fictitious agreement, and would constitute an association, the homogeneity of which would be ensured by its single aim. Party holding its members, once they have joined it, in a vice-like grasp, would give place to combinations forming and re-forming spontaneously, according to the changing problems of life and the play of opinion brought about thereby. Citizens who part company on one question would join forces on another."

Mr. Ostrogorski believes that the substitution of temporary for permanent political parties will emancipate the individual; that he will never wholly surrender himself to party, will always realize his liberty as a free man; and that, freed from the nightmare of party "regularity," he will exercise his personal judgment. Unlike parties of agglomerate creeds, each single-issue association will devote itself wholly to the task of making converts. "Political society will be transformed into a vast school, and democratic government will become really a government of discussion."

These suggestions are neither so novel nor so impracticable as may at first appear. The old order, with its social unity, is no longer possible. In an era of liberty, the harmony of the elements of society can be restored only by an agreement of wills. The new social synthesis required by an emancipated society lies in the free union of wills in varied and successive combinations. It cannot be effected once for all and about everything. Mr. Ostrogorski points out that the existing system is rapidly breaking up. Some of the old parties live on the credit of their past, which is well nigh exhausted. "Compact and stable majorities are only a historical reminiscence." Already the new method appears in the form of "committees" and "leagues" for definite purposes. The struggle between the two modes of political action is on. The cry of political evolution is, "Down with 'party'; up with 'league.'"

Mr. Ostrogorski holds no brief for absolution. It is not of democracy, but of party, that he declares: Its life is "only one long school of servile submission. All the lessons the citizen receives in it are lessons in cowardice." He loves democracy so well that he would save it from deadly peril.

"Men must be taught to use their judgment, and to act independently. It is on the accomplishment of this work of liberation that the whole future of democracy depends. Hitherto the victorious struggle which democracy has carried on in the world has been mainly, and necessarily, a struggle for material liberty; moral liberty, which consists in thinking and acting as free reason dictates, has yet to be achieved by it. It has carried the *habeas corpus* by force, but the decisive battle of democracy will be fought on the *habeas animum*. . . . It is the political and social forms anterior to democracy that are dead. . . . Democracy has brought with it liberty, and it has renewed the life of societies."

The author is under no illusions as to what it means to overcome the formalism that oppresses democratic government. To him, victory does not mean the complete realization by means of a single effort of the end proposed.

"The victories which bring about the political or social transformations consist of changes in the trend of society towards the one or the other of the opposing principles. However far they may go, these changes never entail the absolute triumph of principles, . . . but they turn or move society in the direction leading to that ideal point to which it can draw nearer by means of fresh efforts, without ever reaching it. To gain a few points on the indefinite series of degrees,— that is the task which confronts each generation, and which should satisfy its ambition and its ardor, and also its pride when the task is performed."

The contribution of Mr. Ostrogorski to the literature of democracy is a great and valuable one. Into this book he has compressed the results of many years of exhaustive study. Its pages exhibit ripe scholarship, unusual capacity for thinking clearly, and a just sense of proportion. Taken as a whole, it will please neither the cheerful optimist who ignores the facts, nor the friend of privilege who hates liberty. It will be welcomed everywhere by the real friends of democracy.

De Tocqueville wrote a brilliant treatise on democracy, illustrated by observations on American institutions. Professor Von Holst produced an exhaustive history of American constitutions. Mr. Bryce contributed a careful survey of the American Commonwealth, particularly of its government and politics as a whole. Mr. Ostrogorski now adds to this great series a scientific and philosophical study of the political forces by means of which American

government lives. Each of these foreign observers of the greatest of democratic societies has made a lasting contribution to the study of democracy. Without seeking to compare works of dissimilar scope and purpose, it is but just to say that the contribution of this Russian scholar is one of the most valuable of the series. Students of government, the world over, will turn to this book for exact information and critical discussion of its most vital problem.

EDWIN BURRITT SMITH.

DR. BOWDITCH OF MASSACHUSETTS.*

For three generations the name of Bowditch has been identified with original research in two important branches of science — mathematics and medicine. It has also an honorable position in public life and in the records of good citizenship. The eminent physician who, with rare success, has edited the two volumes containing the biography and correspondence of his distinguished father, has rendered a valuable service not only to students of science but to students of American history as well. As he prefaces the work with the statement that here is "the personal experience of an active Abolitionist," so he has recalled the vital incidents of that movement for which his father paid willing sacrifice; at the same time he has interwoven abundant revelations of his father's devotion to the progress of medicine. The public and personal incidents are tactfully blended. The childhood days in the Salem home, next to the Old Witch House, are told with charm. The reader finds in this picture of Nathaniel Bowditch, the wise, inspiring father of the subject of this sketch, a new familiarity of relation with one who is most often recalled as the translator of La Place's "Mécanique Céleste." With a mind keen for research, young Henry Bowditch decided, with some reluctance, to adopt medicine as his profession; and, college days ended, he went abroad to stay two years at foreign schools and hospitals. His father's fame as a mathematician was his passport to many a noted *salon* besides that of Madame La Place, while his enthusiasm for his work increased rapidly under the best of Parisian doctors, notably Dr. Louis, who became not alone a teacher but a life-friend to the American student. Science, in its theoretical and applied phases, did not submerge the romantic tendencies of the young physician, as revealed in letters descriptive of his vacation rambles amid the haunts of Burns and "Highland Mary." Still more tender and reserved is the story of his love for the English girl, comrade of his *pension* experience, whose face smiles at the reader with the gracious beauty and "sweet records" of seventy years.

Almost before Dr. Bowditch could establish his professional life in Boston, came the opening discords, soon to become open rupture and war, between North and South. In this life-history, the familiar incidents of the Garrison mob, the escape of the Crafts, and the rendition of Simms, are retold with the vividness of personal experience. The extracts covering these events are taken from the letters of Dr. Bowditch, and from his journal-compilation entitled "Thirty Years' War of Anti-Slavery." In token of friendship for him and common zeal in the cause he served, Whittier wrote the stirring poem called "Massachusetts to Virginia," to be read by Dr. Bowditch at a meeting in Ipswich; while Lowell, for a similar occasion, wrote the lines associated with the death of Charles Torrey, "Woe Worth the Hour." For the imported sun-dial, with quaint history, placed in front of the Bowditch homestead at Weston, Whittier, in further attestation of his friendship, wrote the beautiful stanza of aspiration, —

> "With warning hand I mark Time's rapid flight,
> From life's glad morning to its solemn night;
> Yet, through the dear God's love I also show
> There's light above me by the shade below."

When the exciting events of the fifties had been succeeded by the actual conflict, the patriotic heart and practical mind of Dr. Bowditch gave their noble services to his country. Even when his first-born lay dead on a Southern battle-field, the father stifled his grief and worked with renewed vigor to gain better ambulances and hospital-service. In the midst of political crises, Dr. Bowditch had continued his medical studies, as well as practice, urging new modes of treatment for diseases of chest and lungs. In this phase of medicine he was pioneer in the modern methods that have reached further efficiency through the skill of his son. His fame in his profession brought him appointments of honor in this country, notably as a member of the National Board of Health; and when he paid visits to Europe, in later life, he was greeted with dual acclaim, on his own as well as his father's record, by

* LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF HENRY INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. By his son, Vincent Y. Bowditch. In two volumes. Illustrated. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

scientists of England and the continent. He modestly makes but casual mention of these tributes, but prefers to narrate at length a night walk with the police through East London streets, — interesting to him in his philanthropic profession, and especially associated with memories of Dickens and his studies of London life. If the latter portion of the biography seems somewhat discursive and commonplace in contrast with the earlier events of more vital interest, there is a delight in following the serene years to their close in 1892, — the fitting end of a life of pure, high service to humanity.

ANNIE RUSSELL MARBLE.

REMOTE REGIONS AND PEOPLES OF MEXICO.*

For the past twenty years, Mexico has been a much "written-up" country. There have been books upon books about Mexico, until it seemed that every phase of the subject had been exhaustively treated, and that Mexico was no longer *terra incognita*. But it occurred to the mind of Dr. Carl Lumholtz, a few years ago, that there was still an unknown Mexico, — a region that had escaped the attention of the railroad and mining prospectors and of pleasure-seeking travellers; a region beyond the ken of the Mexican scientists, and even of the Mexican Government; a region that might hold a secret of great importance regarding the native races of America. A year or more spent among cannibalistic blacks in Australia had deepened his interest in the study of savage and barbaric races, and he had decided to make that study his life-work. This scientifically unexplored region was therefore more attractive to him than any other, and he began forthwith to devise ways and means for a journey of discovery thither. By dint of much effort, he succeeded in engaging the interests of the American Museum of Natural History, the American Geographical Society, and many public-spirited men and women of the United States, and a fund was subscribed to enable him to pursue his scientific researches. In 1890 he made a preliminary visit to the Zuñi, Navajo, and Moqui Indians, upon our Southwestern borders; and then proceeded to the City of Mexico, to secure the interest of President Diaz in his scientific enterprises. There is in Mexico no Bureau of Ethnology, such as we have in this country; but the broad-minded and progressive statesman who is the President of the Mexican Republic hailed with enthusiasm the proposition of Dr. Lumholtz, and furthered the ends of the enterprise to the fullest extent in his power.

Thus accredited and equipped, Dr. Lumholtz set out upon his explorations in the western ranges of the Sierra Madre in Northwestern Mexico, at the head of an organized party of thirty men, including geographers, geologists, mineralogists, zoölogists, botanists, archæologists, photographers, guides, cooks, muleteers, and requiring the services of nearly a hundred animals. But the corps of scientific assistants was gradually reduced, and finally altogether disbanded. The enterprising explorer was left alone to continue his researches. An early result was that he was able to return to the United States, in August, 1893, with an extensive collection of Tarahumare and Tepehuane ethnological specimens to be exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

Meanwhile, his fullest expectations had been realized by his finding among the Tarahumare Indians actual cave-dwellers. With deepened interest, he set out, in March, 1894, upon a more extensive expedition, which lasted three years. On this trip he was without scientific companions, and "roughed it" for the most part with the Indians. During these years the privileged few who had access to the published proceedings and bulletins of the American Museum of Natural History, the American Geographical Society, and kindred organizations, might have informed themselves of some very important ethnological and archæological discoveries that were being made in Northwestern Mexico; and readers of "Scribner's Magazine" could not have failed to become interested in some articles from the pen of Dr. Lumholtz, regarding the cave-dwelling of the Tarahumares. Eighteen months were spent among these Indians, and ten months among the Coras and Huichols; and much knowledge was gained of the North and South Tepehuanes, the Tepecanos, the Nahuas (whom we usually call the Aztecs), and the Tarascos. A supplementary expedition was made, with Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, in 1898, extending over three or four months, and including another visit to the Tarahumares and Huichols.

In his intercourse with the various tribes, Dr. Lumholtz so won the confidence of the people that in many cases he was permitted to

*UNKNOWN MEXICO. A Record of Five Years' Exploration among the Tribes of the Western Sierra Madre; in the Tierra Caliente of Tepic and Jalisco; and among the Tarascos of Michoacan. By Carl Lumholtz, M.A., Member of the Royal Society of Science, Norway, etc. In two volumes. Illustrated. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

witness their most sacred religious ceremonies, to take photographs of the various ethnological types which presented themselves for his investigation, to make collections of articles used in their ceremonials and even of skulls from their burial-places. He not only filled his note-books with data regarding the geology, the flora and fauna of the country, and with ethnological observations of the most valuable character, but he acquired a general knowledge of the languages in use among these tribes, and made extensive collections of anthropological measurements, samples of hair, osseous remains, aboriginal melodies, folk-lore, myths, and traditions.

The story of these expeditions by Dr. Lumholtz, and of his life among the Indians, we now have in two sumptuous octavo volumes, containing more than 1000 pages, illustrated with 530 half-tone reproductions of photographs taken by the author, besides sixteen plates in color and three excellent maps, — altogether the most valuable contribution that has been made of recent years to the literature of scientific exploration and discovery in the Western World. The author's pleasant literary style, his keen sense of humor, and his kindly philosophy, take these volumes out of the category of purely scientific works and make them of deep interest to the general reader, who will find scarcely a dull page in either volume. The story is one of adventures of an unusual sort, all simply told and without any striving after effects. More than once the author and his scientific treasures had a narrow escape from total destruction, as was the case at a ranch in the state of Michoacan, where he accepted the proffer of a bed-room. His Indian servant lit a candle, and, perceiving a jar in a box near the bed, tried to use it as a candlestick. Fortunately, his efforts to stick the taper in the mouth of the jar were unsuccessful, for the host presently stepped forward, remarking quietly, "It is better to put the candle somewhere else, because this is dynamite."

The summing up by Dr. Lumholtz, of his experiences after he had reached quasi-civilization, is calculated to make ethnologists of us all. Only those who have enjoyed the delights of being in close touch with nature can understand and appreciate the fascination which that region, not yet reached by man's aggressive spirit, had for him. He suffered much in Mexico. Malaria has a peculiar power of making one feel the misery of life; but the pleasant memories of his stay in Northwestern Mexico far outranked the disagreeable. He never felt lonely among the Indians. So much was constantly happening in that little world of theirs, that he could not help feeling interested and stimulated in observing and studying them. Sharing their joys and sorrows, entering into their thoughts, and learning to understand their lore and their traditions, he felt himself carried back thousands of years into the early stages of human history. Primitive people taught him a new philosophy of life, for their ignorance is nearer the truth than our prejudice; and though they have much to learn from us, we also have many things to learn from them besides those things which are coldly set down in scientific reports.

ARTHUR HOWARD NOLL.

SHAKESPEARE AND VOLTAIRE.*

An exceedingly interesting chapter of literary history is that which recounts the gradual progress of the revolt against the spirit and doctrine of classicism, as they had been elaborated and refined in France in the *grand siècle*, and had triumphantly invaded the other literatures of Europe. The part that the works of Shakespeare played in this reaction is well known. It has several times been made the subject of special studies. It is a portion of this field that Professor Lounsbury cultivates in the second volume of his series on "Shakespearean Wars." In this volume he has set himself the task of telling the story of Voltaire's relations to Shakespeare, "of the influence originally exerted upon him by the English dramatist, of the war he waged against the latter's growing reputation on the continent, of the hostility evoked in turn towards himself in England." It is the latter story that has professedly engaged the author's particular attention, and the chapters devoted to it contain perhaps the freshest material of the volume. But these chapters make up rather less than a quarter of the four hundred and fifty pages of the whole. The others turn pretty closely about Voltaire's dealings with Shakespeare, and this story has long since been made familiar to us. After the special studies of which it had been the object, there was not much of real importance to be gleaned from a new search of the field. Of Voltaire's first references to Shakespeare, from which we might infer an appreciation that he

*SHAKESPEARE AND VOLTAIRE. By Thomas R. Lounsbury. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

really never had, and which afterwards seemed to him to have been responsible for the spreading knowledge of the English dramatist in France; of his later efforts to undo the mischief he fancied he had wrought; of his numerous borrowings from Shakespeare, and his reticence with regard to them; of his unscrupulous tactics in controversy and his shameless mendacity,—of all this we were already abundantly informed. Professor Lounsbury has gone into this story with greater detail than his predecessors, but without modifying essentially our view of Voltaire's attitude toward works so teeming with interest and power and human reality that they compelled his curious wonder and surprise, yet cast in a mould alike so repugnant æsthetically to his sense of beauty and irreconcilable with his reasoned theories of art, and mirroring a world of feeling and action so innocent of the jurisdiction of the *convenances* of life in a *salon*, that he was sincerely repelled, shocked, and disgusted. Indeed, our general view of Voltaire's attitude is rather obscured by the fulness of the narrative and the emphasis laid upon its separate episodes. The stress laid upon the bitterness of Voltaire's later criticisms of Shakespeare easily creates the impression that his view of the qualities of his dramatic works had shifted with time and the dangerous literary toleration that he observed about him. The correcting statement of the concluding chapter, that "there was never any real change in Voltaire's opinion about Shakespeare," is therefore distinctly called for.

Professor Lounsbury is careful to tell us, in his preface, that he proposes to confine himself strictly to the story of Voltaire's relations with Shakespeare; and he distinctly disclaims all intention of setting these in their historical perspective as a part of the history of Shakespeare's invasion of France. That, in spite of this disclaimer, he feels the disadvantage of thus isolating his actors from their background, is shown by his filling it in at several points, seeing rightly that it was necessary to the understanding of their feelings and utterances. It is to be regretted that he did not also bring them into connection with the larger background of the general movement of ideas of the time. One might easily carry away the impression that the revolt against classicism was wholly a result of the spreading knowledge of Shakespeare's works. One does not feel quite sure that this is not Professor Lounsbury's view, so completely does he ignore that part of the anti-classical current that was wholly independent of Shakespeare. The influence of Shakespeare's works in breaking down the tradition of classicism was enormous, doubtless; but it was not alone, nor would it have been of itself sufficient. To give it such exclusive emphasis magnifies unduly the doctrinal and formal element among literary influences, and leaves out of account the close dependence of literature upon life. No amount of familiarity with the works of Shakespeare in the original tongue could have given the public of the age of Louis XIV. any misgivings as to the authority of the classical rules. Those rules, and the conception of dramatic art which they embody, were too closely connected with the ideas upon which the whole life and society of the time rested, and no amount of argument and no sympathetic interpretation of foreign literatures could have availed to shake the authority of those rules so long as life conformed unhesitatingly to those ideas. The romantic drama of Spain was by no means unknown to the founders of the French classical tradition, but this knowledge did not modify in any degree the rigorous development of the classical formula. Could the works of Shakespeare have circulated in France in the latter half of the seventeenth century, it is impossible to believe that representatives of French culture could have read them except by a powerful and constant effort of the will. That these works were greeted with eager curiosity by a considerable public in the middle of the eighteenth century, is not more prophetic of changes that were to overtake the received poetic creed in France than significant of changes that had already taken place in French society and ideas. The famous quarrel between the Ancients and the Moderns was a very empty affair so long as both parties were at one as to the sufficiency of the ideals that shaped life and conduct throughout the recognized "*monde*" under the great Louis. It was not till the insufficiency of these ideals began to be felt, with an accompanying sense of irritation and restlessness at the narrowness of the horizons to which, with all their distinction and elegance, they had condemned men's outlook over the world, that the forms of classical art were seriously questioned. And if, after all, the eighteenth century came but to a very imperfect comprehension of Shakespeare's art, it was primarily because it still came to the picture of life he gave with the inherited habits and preconceptions of the elegant courtly ideal. Indeed, it may be suggested that if Voltaire seemed at the moment of leaving England more

open to the appeal of Shakespeare than ever afterward, it was because the outlines of his courtly ideal were at that moment a little dimmed, and the immediate impressions of life uppermost with him were those received from English society. It is to be regretted, then, that Professor Lounsbury did not give us a glimpse of those new elements of a wider and different outlook on life that the eighteenth century was accumulating.

If this dependence of literary form and theory upon the larger background of national culture and the general theory and practice of living is not taken account of as one would wish it were, it is yet here and there more or less fully implied, and once at least plainly asserted. "No literature of any sort," the author says, "can succeed permanently which does not strike its roots deep down into the national character and life." The application he makes of this view to French literature shows perhaps why it seems to have been so generally disregarded in his treatment of his subject. For he denies to the drama of French classicism that deep foundation in the national character and life that alone may support enduring fame. One must conclude, then, that the works of Racine and Corneille have lost their power to charm French audiences, or that Professor Lounsbury knows that they certainly will lose it. The question of the future may very well be appealed to that court of last resort that alone can pronounce the final judgment. But as to the present, does Professor Lounsbury mean to say that the success of the French classical drama has already come to an end? With what grief and horror such an opinion would fill M. Brunetière! And on what shall we base our judgment of the present success of authors of more than two centuries ago? What proofs could we give of the vitality of Shakespeare's works for the great English-speaking world that could not be matched with equal evidences of the continued favor of the classical masterpieces for the French public? This is one of the difficulties that arise from Professor Lounsbury's view that the French classical drama is not a national product, and that the differences that separate the drama of the age of Louis XIV. from that of the age of Elizabeth are not those which separate the two nations, but only such as separate a special class, an elite aristocracy, from the whole people.

> "The English theatre was the theatre of the nation; the French was the theatre of a class. The energy, the liberty, the disregard of useless conventions which Voltaire had found in the drama of the land to which he had come, were not really due, as he fancied, to the different character of the people, any more than was what was in his eyes its rudeness, its license, its disregard of decorum. Similarly, the elegance, the delicacy, the beauty of the drama of which he boasted, did not owe their existence to the character of the people he had left behind, any more than did the monotony, the lifelessness, the dull dialogue of which he constantly complained. These are not and cannot be distinctive features of the stages of different nations in which social life is essentially the same; they are the marks which distinguish the drama of an aristocracy from that of a whole people. Results essentially alike would have followed in each country, had the conditions been alike."

Yes, — no doubt like results would have followed like conditions. But just in the likeness or unlikeness of conditions lies the whole matter. Has unlikeness of conditions no significance as to likeness of national character? Could conditions so immensely different as those of France and England at the time of their literary blossoming have come about with essential identity of character in the two peoples? Or, if such different conditions could be imposed upon two peoples of like characters, would they not of necessity speedily diverge? Without stopping to examine within what limits, if at all, the assertion is true that the French classical drama is that of an aristocracy, while that of England is the drama of a whole people, one cannot help wondering upon what it depended, if national character was in no wise concerned, that the theatres played such a vastly different part in the two countries.

It is, no doubt, Professor Lounsbury's enthusiastic devotion to Shakespeare that has kept him from putting himself at the standpoint of French classicism and doing it full justice, as it has led him to emphasize so specially the *rôle* of Shakespeare's works as a literary influence. It is this same devotion that has prompted him to ascribe to Voltaire a feeling that he pretty certainly never had. "It is hard to escape from the impression that in Voltaire's inmost soul there lurked, in spite of his colossal self-conceit, a vague consciousness of inferiority, whenever he came to measure himself with the great dramatist. He was overpowered by something, he knew not what." Surely, French observers of Voltaire have had no difficulty in escaping from this impression.

But we shall not blame this devotion, since to it we owe also the fullest and most minute presentation that the relations of Voltaire to Shakespeare have yet found, or are likely to find; and we need not find fault if it is fuller than we think it need have been.

ARTHUR G. CANFIELD.

New York: Past and Present.*

The author of "New Amsterdam and Its People," Mr. J. H. Innes, is inclined to regret that the "Knickerbocker History of New York" was ever written, inasmuch as its burlesque creations have become impressed on the popular mind to the exclusion of the real facts regarding the city, which even in its early days was cosmopolitan in population, containing men of many nations besides the Dutch. Mr. Innes's work bears as a secondary title, "Studies, Social and Topographical, of the Town under Dutch and Early English Rule"; but the latter part of this caption is scarcely accurate, for after a rapid sketch of the earlier history of the settlement, the author selects the year 1655 — when, as he says, New Amsterdam had begun to assume the appearance of a settled town — as the period of his survey. One is inclined to wonder why he did not decide on 1653, when the burgomasters were appointed, and which year, as Fiske says, "may be cited as marking a new era for the Dutch province."

The author's plan is simple. Starting with the White Horse Tavern, at the head of Broad Street, he works gradually down to the neighborhood known as "the Ferry," where the remotest houses stood in 1655. He describes the topography of the town, street by street, comparing it constantly with the same streets of to-day. He gives a sketch of the history of each building and its owners or dwellers, of necessity looking backwards and forwards from his chosen date. Among the more interesting chapters are those dealing with the West India Company and its Colonial Officers, Dominie Bogardus, Cornelis Melyn the patroon of Staten Island, Jacob Steendam the poet, the "Great Tavern" afterwards the Stadt Huys or Town Hall, and Govert Loockermans and his family. The author goes somewhat out of his way to give the history of Captain Kidd, who does not belong to this period, and to discuss the identity of William Paterson, a Scotchman who settled in New Amsterdam for a time, and who may possibly have been the founder of the Bank of England.

Mr. Innes, who has obtained his information from the original records, frequently differs from the former investigators, notably Valentine; but he fortifies himself by proofs, generally beyond dispute, — as in his claim for Jan Vinje (Jean Vigne), rather than Sarah Rapalje, as being the first child of European parentage born in New Netherlands. The author's rhetorical style is not especially to be commended, and he has a fashion of somewhat lengthy sentimental allusions to old-world scenes and events that is somewhat confusing. Nevertheless, the book is full of the material of history and romance, and worthy of careful study.

Mr. Rufus Rockwell Wilson's "New York, Old and New" is larger in plan and less minute in detail than the work of Mr. Innes. It is, moreover, intended primarily as a gift-book, and is therefore more popular in style. It is bound in two attractive volumes, with numerous illustrations but no maps, and a fairly good index. To those who have read the author's previous works it is unnecessary to say that these volumes are entertaining, and to many they will certainly be instructive as well.

Mr. Wilson does not name the authorities for his facts, except in a few scattered instances; but inasmuch as he does not put forward any new discoveries, we may reasonably infer that he bases his work upon Mrs. Lamb, Valentine, and other well-known writers. Indeed, he says in his preface that "the preparation of this work necessarily involved a study of every noteworthy authority." In other words, he is the conservative chronicler, rather than an original investigator like Mr. Innes. He has succeeded very well in his endeavors to make an interesting sketch of New York's history "for the busy reader of slender purse," and to give it careful and impartial treatment.

The first volume contains a consecutive history of the city, outlining briefly the main events from Hudson's time down to the formation of "Greater New York." The survey is necessarily rapid, but the author finds space for descriptive chapters touching the social and topographical conditions in each period. He has placed emphasis throughout on what he calls the personal element; that is, he has the story-teller's touch, and has seized upon the picturesque at some sacrifice of dry details, dates, etc. The second volume is concerned with New York of the present day, and takes the reader on numerous strolls through the city, locating places that have historic or other interest. Here there is necessarily some repe-

*New Amsterdam and Its People. Studies, Social and Topographical, of the Town under Dutch and Early English Rule. By J. H. Innes. Illustrated. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

New York, Old and New. Its Story, Streets, and Landmarks. By Rufus Rockwell Wilson. In two volumes. Illustrated. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

tition of matter that is in the first volume, but not enough to be annoying. The district covered includes not only the old city, as in "New Amsterdam and its People," but also the northern end of the island, including Harlem and the "Neutral ground." There is also a chapter entitled "Little Sisters of Manhattan," treating of the neighboring islands — Governor's, Bedloe's, Ward's, etc. Many interesting anecdotes bearing on the old Dutch burghers, governors, and lords of the manor, on the town under English rule, and on the Revolutionary period, are here given, as well as much pleasant gossip about the players, writers, and other residents of the town in the early and middle part of the last century. Some items are familiar enough, but many are altogether new.

The most serious fault of Mr. Wilson's work, in our estimation, is the frequent use of quotations without specifying their authors, and the entire absence of notes. The author also stands convicted of the use of the split infinitive, annoying to so many readers. However, these faults do not prevent the work from being a more complete supplementary guide-book to New York than any of its predecessors, as well as very interesting reading besides.

EDITH GRANGER.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

A journalistic treatment of modern Germany.

Several articles on the political and social aspects of modern Germany, by Mr. Wolf von Schierbrand, have appeared in recent years in our prominent periodicals. Their author has now collected them and extended the series to a good-sized volume, which is published under the title, "Germany; the Welding of a World Power" (Doubleday, Page & Co.). Mr. von Schierbrand is a naturalized American citizen, and for a number of years represented the Associated Press in Berlin. He has therefore had exceptional advantages for the preparation of his book; he has not, however, risen above the style or the view-point of the ordinary newspaper correspondent. His book is interesting, at times gossipy, occasionally suggestive, but never profound or discriminating. Thus, the chapters on the Emperor present him simply as known by common report in the better classes of Berlin society. It is not a picture that adds to our knowledge of the man or to our appreciation of his motives. Occasionally the illustrations of contradictory elements in the imperial policy — the phrase "imperial antics" is, by the way, to be deprecated — are striking. Thus, William II. championed the reduction of classics and the introduction of broader technical training in the schools; at the same time he urged the *Lex Arons*, which subjected University tutors to the rigid supervision of the Minister of Education, and thus threatened the boasted *Lehrfreiheit* of German academic instruction. Some examination of the reasons for this and similar contradictory positions would be instructive and valuable. The point of view throughout is that of modern Berlin, and the author's attitude is unsympathetic. The description of social life is startling in the frankness with which it deals with certain phases of contemporary society, but it would be deplorable were we to believe that the German nation is really so corrupt and so given over to luxury as it would seem. The journalist's desire to be "readable" is too apparent. No doubt the modern Berlin professor is a man of the world, but the picture drawn by Mr. von Schierbrand is as little typical of German academic teachers, as a class, as was the caricature of *Fliegende Blatter*, which he mistook for a type. Life in general is really more genuine and less "*schneidig*" than it appears on the surface, or as presented in this book. Certain chapters, especially those on the Agrarian and the Socialist movements, are worth commendation; that on Literature and Art, on the contrary, is singularly weak and unsatisfactory. On the whole the book is entertaining, but it can by no means be accepted as an authoritative discussion of the problems with which it deals.

Interesting art-criticism.

Remarkable for its clearness and breadth of insight is the art-criticism given us by Mr. W. E. Henley in his little volume of "Views and Reviews: Essays in Art Appreciation" (Scribner). The book consists of short essays and notes, most of them written a dozen years ago; and, as the author states in the preface, scarcely changed and in no way modernized. He has written with a fine contempt not only for public opinion, but also for all other critics, with the two exceptions of Eugene Fromentin and R. A. M. Stevenson (a cousin of Robert Louis), in praise of whom he devotes his last essay, under the title: "A Critic of Art." What Mr. Henley's own art-criticism aims at, is best told in his own language: "At least I may claim to have read few books into my pictures, to have done my best to keep my painting more or less unlettered, to have proffered my conclusions, such as they are, fairly well purged of sentiment. So did not Hazlitt, nor Ruskin; and, if it must be that I fail with these, I doubt not (such is the vanity of man) that I shall take a sour pleasure in reflecting that, be things as they may, my failure is not on all-fours with theirs." He begins with early romanticism, of which movement he has a great deal to say, and always from the point of view of the worshipper of a cult. In tracing the development of the painter's art, he brings into close comparison the products of the sculptors, musicians, poets, novelists, and even actors, of the same time; treating them all as parts of the great romantic movement, each influencing the others. He sometimes becomes involved

in the great mass of his material; but his first essay is headed "A *Note* on Romanticism," and so we cannot find fault if he has occasionally sacrificed logic for a delightful little side-excursion. "Profiles Romantiques," which forms the second part of the book, is a series of short and trenchant sketches of nearly all the great romantic artists. Each one is summed up with a keenness that displays a knowledge of technique extraordinary in a layman. Mr. Henley's enthusiasms are given to Corot, Delacroix, Rousseau, and Monticelli,—in general, everything French; for, in speaking of Meissonier, he says: "The truth is, he is French of the French: French in his care for microscopic detail, French in his patient ingenuity and his conscientious disdain for what seems to him bad work, French in the neatness of his ambitions, French in the dry impersonal quality of his color, the deftness of his handiwork, the logical effect of his line, the trim assurance of his effects." Only five Dutchmen are mentioned in the book; but the English are treated at length, and Constable is given the place of highest favor,—Constable, the disciple of Claude. In addition to its other excellencies, Mr. Henley's book succeeds in presenting a larger view of the scope of art and of the art-critic. He is not satisfied with himself till he has subjected each picture to the brightest searchlight of analysis; and he is not satisfied with a picture that cannot stand all his tests. One of his simplest tenets is that "Imitation for its own sake is the basest of aims, and the pursuit of it can have but the meanest of results."

A definitive edition de luxe of FitzGerald.

It was only a few months ago that an American firm began the publication of a "Variorum and Definitive" edition of Edward FitzGerald's writings, containing in seven large volumes the various versions and revisions of all the published works. Now we have before us the first instalment of a "definitive edition de luxe" of the same author, also in seven volumes, bearing in this case the imprint of FitzGerald's authorized publishers, the Messrs. Macmillan, and edited by his literary executor, Mr. W. Aldis Wright. The nearly simultaneous appearance of two such publishing enterprises would naturally bring them into rather direct comparison; but as it happens a just comparison is not possible in this instance, the editorial plans of the two editions being wholly dissimilar. Each supplements the other, and the FitzGerald enthusiast will not be content unless both repose upon his shelves. If confined to one or the other, our own choice would rest with the English edition, on several accounts. We are of those who prefer their English authors in English dress, for one thing. For another, we are content with FitzGerald's work in the form which he finally gave it, without regard to the intermediate revisions and changes — interesting as these often are. But the main reason for our preference lies in the fact that the English edition contains the Letters, which being still in copyright were unavailable for the American undertaking. FitzGerald's other prose works are of small account in comparison with the Letters; even the Omar paraphrase has not so good a chance with posterity as those incomparable documents in which the Woodbridge philosopher revealed to a few intimate friends the depths of his rarely beautiful personality. The collection here given us by Mr. Wright includes all the known correspondence, comprising the original series published in 1889, the additional letters contained in the "Eversley" edition of 1894, the "Letters to Fanny Kemble" of 1895, and the "More Letters" of 1901. All these are now arranged, as they should be for the best enjoyment of the reader, in chronological order, instead of the previous arbitrary groups, and occupy four of the seven volumes comprising the present edition. The remaining volumes contain the sum of FitzGerald's published literary work and translations — the "little escapades in print," as he himself used to call them. Mr. Wright's introduction to the collected edition of 1889 and his elucidative passages and notes in the Letters are reprinted here, but otherwise the editorial matter is almost entirely FitzGerald's own. The external setting of the edition is irreproachable in nearly all details, the *de luxe* character being maintained without loss of simplicity or dignity. Possibly the binding might be considered a trifle too ornate to accord with the sober genius of "old Fitz"; but it is no less striking and effective on that account. Each volume contains a frontispiece portrait in photogravure. Unless the letters to James Spedding should miraculously come to light, this must remain the final edition of FitzGerald's complete writings.

Sanitary science and public health.

It was Lecky who said that the triumphs of sanitary science form perhaps the brightest page in the history of our century, and Lord Derby who held that sanitary instruction is even more important than sanitary legislation. Those who wish to read of the successes of this branch of applied biology, and those who seek instruction in the art of sanitary living in matters of personal and public hygiene, will find Professor William T. Sedgwick's "Principles of Sanitary Science and Public Health" (Macmillan) a most complete and satisfactory treatise. The writer for many years has been the biologist of the Massachusetts State Board of Health, and has rendered public service in matters of water supplies, sewage disposal, and other phases of public hygiene under municipal or state control, unsurpassed for the scientific thoroughness with which the work has been done. This book is written with special reference to the causation and prevention of infectious diseases, and presents in simple and logical form the fundamental scientific principles on which the great practical arts of modern sanitation securely rest. It is the outcome of a course of lectures delivered to engineers, chemists, biologists, and architects, at the Massachusetts Insti-

tute of Technology; and its illustrations are drawn largely from the author's experience in dealing with problems of sanitation. It treats the subject broadly, dealing with the basic principles underlying the philosophy of cleanness, rather than their immediate application, and while it is thoroughly scientific it is by no means too technical for the intelligent reader. It treats of the nature of infectious and contagious diseases, and the means of their dissemination and control, of toxins and antitoxins, and of asepsis and antisepsis, with simplicity and clearness. Not only will physicians and municipal engineers find the work of great value, but its presence in every institution and school and home would do much to lessen the risk of disease and death, and serve in no small measure to correct some popular and all too-prevalent fallacies concerning the nature and cause of diseases, and the necessity of preventative measures for the protection of the individual and the community.

A volume on title-pages.

An admirable treatise on "Title Pages," by Mr. Theodore L. De-Vinne, is published by the Century Co. This book, which belongs to a series on the practice of typography, by one who is a master of the art, is like a spring of cool water in a dry land, or a good blast of common-sense in the weary waste of sentimental disquisitions about printing which has been so abundant of late from amateurs and pretenders. Mr. De Vinne divides his treatise into three parts — Historical, Practical, and Critical, which makes a very nice set of distinctions; and it has, furthermore, no less than twenty-three pages of index for four hundred of reading-matter. The text of a treatise on title-pages of course deals with type and other allied subjects; and Mr. De Vinne writes of them all in a style that is clear and sane, — qualities evidently due to that perspective and sense of proportion which come from long study and familiarity with a subject, and a conviction of its importance and interest. At the end is a title-page in ten different styles, showing the varieties of treatment possible. The illustrations are numerous, and fully carry out the clear expository character of the text. The treatise will be found indispensable to all in any way connected with the making of books, while its interest will not be confined to these, but will extend to all who have any taste or fancy in typography.

Some fresh bits of Tennysoniana.

If dealing with any one but a very famous personage, Miss Agnes Grace Weld's slender volume of reminiscences — "Glimpses of Tennyson and Some of his Relations and Friends" (imported by Scribner) — would hardly be entitled to hearty commendation. But the theme, rather than the treatment, invests these four short chapters with undeniable interest. Miss Weld's mother was Mrs. Tennyson's sister, and the niece by marriage enjoyed an intimacy with the poet that could hardly have been greater had she been a blood relation. Though showing us less of Tennyson the man than of Tennyson the poet, the writer touches on some of his less familiar qualities. His artistic taste and skill are attested by the cover of the book, which bears a spray of ivy as carved by him from nature. The design was employed in the decorative terra-cotta moulding around the windows of a model cottage on his estate. To his young niece the poet gave a solemn charge to let the world know "how great a sacrifice" he had made in accepting, at Mr. Gladstone's pressing entreaty, the offered peerage. The devout side of his nature receives fresh illustration in these pages. The freedom of the human will and the starry heavens he considered the two greatest of marvels. Pointing to a recently felled horse-chestnut tree that still put forth its blossoms, he likened it "to some men who appear blooming outwardly whilst they are already dead within." His going down on his knees to kindle a fire for a newly arrived guest, and his haste to answer the letter of a frenzied German who threatened to kill himself unless he secured the poet's autograph before a certain date, illustrate the simple human kindness of the man. Reminiscences of Charles and Horatio Tennyson, Mrs. Cameron, Edward Bowen and his brother, W. G. Ward, and other of Tennyson's relatives and friends, give added value to the little book, which is rendered still further attractive by some interesting portraits and an appendix containing selections from the late Bertram Tennyson's privately printed prose and verse.

"Eye-strain" and its consequences.

Dr. George M. Gould, a Philadelphia ophthalmologist, has written a little book on "Biographic Clinics" (Blakiston), that should prove a veritable eye-opener, in more senses than one. A pathological study of the lives of DeQuincey, Carlyle, Darwin, Huxley, and Browning, leads the author to the conclusion that their recorded physical ailments were largely due to eye-strain, resulting from astigmatism and easily curable at any time by spectacles of the right kind. It was not opium, he feels assured, that so nearly wrecked DeQuincey's life, but defective vision. Study thus brought on other disorders, and opium probably saved his life, instead of almost killing him as the "Confessions" would lead one to infer. Stress is laid on the theory of reflexes. The eye, an all-important and most delicate organ, shifts, if it can, the penalty of its abuse on to other and less delicate organs. Until recently the real cause of countless cases of headache, dyspepsia, insomnia, biliousness, etc., remained unsuspected. Dr. S. Weir Mitchell is duly honored as the one who, thirty years ago, first recognized the pathologic significance of astigmatism. A more than pathologic significance, according to Liebreich, the Berlin oculist, attaches to it in the case of the artist Turner, the peculiar character of whose pictures is thought to be due to the painter's astigmatism; so that if these pictures were viewed through proper astigmatic lenses, their Turnerism would vanish. The lay reader queries whether Dr. Gould does not push his theory pretty far; but

at any rate his book is suggestive and helpful. A very beneficent, practical application of his ideas would be, as he points out, the printing of all books, were it feasible, in white ink on black paper, and also the doing away with gaudy gilt picture-frames. Eye-strain would thus be materially lessened.

An account of Unitarianism in America.

Rev. George Willis Cooke, whose occasional writings on matters of church and religion in America have given indication of his capacity to grapple with these themes on a larger scale, has at last completed his history of "Unitarianism in America," which he had originally intended to bring out three years ago, at the time of the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of the American Unitarian Association, by which body the book is now published; but the task of preparing the work was too great to admit of its earlier appearance. Mr. Cooke was neither born a Unitarian, nor was Unitarianism thrust upon him. He achieved it by struggle and search. Consequently he is well fitted to act as guide to other inquirers. He wisely chooses to dwell rather on what Unitarianism concretely is and what are its fruits, than on the theological controversies that marked its birth and early history. Hence he devotes large portions of his book to such matters as Sunday-school work, missions, reforms, philanthropies, education, Unitarian men and women, and Unitarianism in literature. Our early and middle nineteenth-century literature presents such a preponderance of Unitarian writers that they would seem to be more readily designated by noting exceptions than by giving a list. Other departments of worthy activity are almost equally rich in men and women of that liberal faith that so naturally prompts to good works and broad philanthropy. The book is a most serviceable manual of reference, and as a record of Unitarian achievement in America it supplies a want never before so satisfactorily filled.

An old story told again.

The last century has witnessed astounding strides in the science of philology; and perhaps in no branch of it has such progress been made as in the investigation of the old languages of Southwestern Asia. Mr. Arthur John Booth, in "The Discovery and Decipherment of the Trilingual Cuneiform Inscriptions" (Longmans), retells the story of Rawlinson's great feat in 1835–1846. He prefaces this, however, by two long chapters giving an account of the principal explorers of the Babylonian Valley and Persia, beginning with 1472 A.D. Here we find several incidents of value that have not been noticed by modern writers. Mr. Booth aims to give the reader a definite idea of the contribution made by each traveller to the final and culminating task of reading the ancient languages of Persia. To most scholars, especially to the archæologists, these first two chapters will be of most value. The remainder of the book is a rehearsal of matter already well known to scholars and amply spread before the public in several popular works. The older literature has been utilized, and the author's method of treatment indicates that he is not handling the inscriptions as an expert. The publishers' catalogue of forty pages bound up with the book is in questionable taste.

A mystical interpretation of Omar.

Mr. C. H. A. Bjerregaard, the librarian of the New York Public Library, and a well-known authority on mystical and oriental subjects, has provided the material for the large volume entitled "Sufi Interpretations of the Quatrains of Omar Khayyam and FitzGerald" (J. F. Taylor & Co.). Necessarily, the labor and erudition which have gone into the making of this work are to be appreciated only by those who possess in some degree the mystical temperament. The language in which FitzGerald's pellucid stanzas are clothed have for such readers an interpretation far beyond the ordinary meaning of language, either prosaic or poetic. The universe and its most abstruse problems, the intricacies of all philosophy and morality, and the curious learning of recondite thinkers through many ages, are woven into the Rubáiyát as Mr. Bjerregaard reads them; and he discloses all these things to those who care for and can understand them.

BRIEFER MENTION.

Mr. T. H. Delabère May has prepared a blank verse translation of the "Æneid," which is published in two volumes by Mr. David Nutt. The translator's aim has been the production of a version "which should be as helpful to the student as an ordinary prose crib and more easily remembered." The translation is faithful and not unpleasing, and the lines are numbered according to those of Virgil, although of course considerably more numerous.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., have sent us the thirty-second annual edition of their popular "Satchel Guide for the Vacation Tourist in Europe," as revised and brought up to date by Dr. W. J. Rolfe, who happily combines Shakespearian editing with European touring, and thus indefinitely prolongs a useful life. Dr. Rolfe really *does* correct this little book every year, which is more than can be said for some books that pretend to undergo an annual revision. Even the fall of the Campanile at Venice is noted.

"La Perfecta Casada," a moral treatise of the sixteenth century by Fray Luys de Leon, is reprinted from the third edition (1587), with variants from the first, as a volume of the Decennial Publications of the University of Chicago. The editorial work is done by Miss Elizabeth Wallace, who contributes footnotes and an introduction. This editorial matter, which is all in Spanish, comprises a bibliography of the more important editions, a comparative study of the first and third, and some notes on the author's prose style. An index of quoted passages appears at the end of the volume, for the good priest drew freely upon the Scriptures, the Fathers of the Church, and the Greek and Latin writers. This work belongs to the octavo series of the University Publications.

Announcements of Spring Books.

Herewith is presented The Dial's annual list of books announced for Spring publication, containing this year upwards of 750 titles. With a few necessary exceptions, books recently issued which have been already entered in our regular List of New Books are not named in the present list; and all the books here given are presumably *new* books — new editions not being included unless having new form or matter. The list is compiled from authentic data supplied for this purpose by the publishers themselves, and presents a reliable survey of the Spring books of 1903.

GENERAL LITERATURE.

Letters of Charles Darwin, edited by Francis Darwin, in 2 vols., illus., $5. net.—Literatures of the World series, new vol.: A History of American Literature, by William P. Trent, $1.50 net. (D. Appleton & Co.)

An Illustrated History of English Literature, by Richard Garnett, C.B., and Edmund Gosse, M.A., in 4 vols., Vol. I., From Earliest Times to 1500; Vol. III., From Milton to Johnson; illus. in color, etc.—A Few of Hamilton's Letters, selected by Gertrude Atherton, illus.—David and Bathsheba, a play, by Stephen Phillips.—The Age of Shakespeare, by Thomas Secombe and J. W. Allen, in 2 vols.—The Moral System of Shakespeare, a popular illustration of fiction as the experimental side of philosophy, by Richard G. Moulton.—Ideas of Good and Evil, by W. B. Yeats.—Columbia University Studies in Romance Literature and Philology, new vols.: Guyau, the man, the thinker, the writer, by Daniel Jordan; The Versification of Gonzalo de Berceo, by J. D. FitzGerald.—The Celtic Twilight, by W. B. Yeats, new edition, with additions. (Macmillan Co.)

New Letters and Memorials of Jane Welsh Carlyle, edited by Sir James Crichten Browne, F. R. S., in 2 vols., illus., $6 net.—Ars Heretica, by F. B. Money-Coutts, $1 net.—A new volume of essays by Gilbert Chesterton, $1.25 net.—Shakespeare and the Rival Poet, by Arthur Acheson, with portraits, $1.25 net. (John Lane.)

Elizabethan Critical Essays (1570-1603), edited by G. Gregory Smith, M.A., in 2 vols.—Studies in Dante, by Edward Moore, D.D., third series.—French Versification, by L. E. Kastner, M.A. (Oxford University Press.)

Dante's Influence on English Poetry from Chaucer to Tennyson, by Prof. Oscar W. Kuhns.—The Princess of Hanover, a play, by Margaret L. Woods. (Henry Holt & Co.)

Aids to the Study of Dante, edited by Charles Allen Dinsmore.—Comments of John Ruskin on Passages in the Divine Comedy.—Phillips Brooks, a study, by William Lawrence, 50 cts. net. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

Through the Gates of Old Romance, by W. Jay Mills, illus., $2.50 net.—Glimpses of Colonial Society and Life at Princeton College, 1766-1773, by one of the class of 1763, edited by W. Jay Mills, illus., $2 net. (J. B. Lippincott Co.)

Anthology of Russian Literature, by Leo Wiener, Part II., The Nineteenth Century, with frontispiece, $3 net.—Writings of James Monroe, edited by S. M. Hamilton, Vol. VII., completing the work, $5 net.—Writings of James Madison, edited by Gaillard Hunt, Vol. IV., $5 net. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Literary Essays, by Frank Norris, $1.40 net. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

Exits and Entrances, by Charles Warren Stoddard. (Lothrop Publishing Co.)

A New Book of Essays, by G. K. Chesterton, $1.20 net. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

Reflections of a Lonely Man, by "A. C. M.," $1 net.—A Selection from the Best English Essays, with historical and critical study of English prose style, by Sherwin Cody, $1 net. (A. C. McClurg & Co.)

The Kaiser's Speeches, with portrait, $2.50. (Harper & Brothers.)

The Diary and Correspondence of Wilhelm Muller, by Philip S. Allen and James Taft Hatfield, $2 net. (University of Chicago Press.)

Unpublished Papers and Sketches of George Douglas Brown, with memoir by D. S. Meldrum, $1.50.—Musings without Method, anonymous, $1.25 net. (McClure, Phillips & Co.)

Irish Saga Library, first vol.: The Courtship of Ferb, an old Irish romance, trans. into English prose and verse by A. H. Leahy, illus., 75 cts. net.—Sir Cliges, Sir Libeaus Desconus, two old English metrical romances, rendered into prose by Jessie L. Weston, illus., 75 cts. net.—The Chatelaine of Vergi, a 13th century French romance, trans. by Alice Kemp-Welch, with introduction by Prof. L. Brandin, illus., 75 cts. net. (New Amsterdam Book Co.)

The Western Slope, essays, by Celia Parker Woolley, $1.25. (William S. Lord.)

Auto da Fe and Other Essays, some being essays in fiction, by the author of "Essays in Paradox," $1.40 net.—The Minor Moralist, by Mrs. Hugh Bell, $1.75.—Clytaemnestra, a tragedy, by Arnold Graves, with preface by Robert Y. Tyrrell, Litt.D. (Longmans, Green & Co.)

Memoirs and Writings of the late Very Rev. James F. Callaghan, D.D., compiled by his sister, Emily A. Callaghan, $2 net.—The Stage of Life, by E. Harrison, $1.50.—A Study of Man, by J. D. Buck, second edition, $1.50. (Robert Clarke Co.)

On Seeing an Elizabethan Play, with some particular discourse of "The Knight of the Burning Pestle," illus., 75 cts. net. (Elder & Shepard.)

BIOGRAPHY AND REMINISCENCES.

Biographical Sketches, by James Bryce.—English Men of Letters series, new vols.: Jane Austen, by H. C. Beeching, M.A.; Crabbe, by Alfred Ainger; Hobbes, by Sir Leslie Stephen, Litt.D.; Browning, by G. K. Chesterton; Lowell, by Henry van Dyke, D.D.; Emerson, by George Edward Woodberry; Benjamin Franklin, by Owen Wister.—Life of Sir George Grove, by C. L. Graves.—Life of Charlotte M. Yonge, by Christabel R. Coleridge, illus.—Life of the Right Rev. Brook Foss Westcott, D.D., late Lord Bishop of Durham, by his son, Rev. Arthur Westcott, in 2 vols., illus.—Foreign Statesmen series, new vol.: Mazarin, by Arthur H. Hassall. (Macmillan Co.)

The Sailor King: William IV., his court and his subjects, by J. Fitzgerald Molloy, in 2 vols., illus., $6.50 net.—Authorized Biography of Bret Harte, by T. Edgar Pemberton, illus., $4 net.—Modern English Writers, new vol.: Thackeray, by Charles Whibley, $1 net. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

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Christopher Columbus, by John Boyd Thacher, in 3 vols., illus., $27 net. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

The Story of My Life, by Helen Keller, illus., $1.50 net. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

The True Abraham Lincoln, by William Eleroy Curtis, illus., $2 net. (J. B. Lippincott Co.)

The Autobiography of Joseph Le Conte, with portrait, $1.25 net.—Historic Lives series, new vol.: Horace Greeley, by William A. Linn, illus., $1 net. (D. Appleton & Co.)

Life and Letters of Edgar Allan Poe, by James A. Harrison, in 2 vols., illus., $2.50 net. (T. Y. Crowell & Co.)

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NOTES.

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"Advanced Algebra for Colleges and Schools," by Dr. William J. Milne, is a new publication of the American Book Co.

Mr. Harold Baker is the author of the "Stratford-on-Avon" volume in "Bell's Cathedral Series" just published by the Macmillan Co.

A new edition of Mr. W. Basil Worsfold's scholarly work on "The Principles of Criticism" is published by Messrs. Longmans, Green, & Co.

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A thin paper "Jane Eyre," in flexible leather binding, comes to us from Messrs. Thomas Nelson & Sons in their "New Century Library" of standard English reprints on India paper.

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Mr. F. B. Sanborn's recollections of Emerson, with his account of Emerson's individuality viewed after a long and intimate acquaintance, will be published this Spring by Mr. Charles E. Goodspeed of Boston, in a volume entitled "The Personality of Emerson."

"A Short History of Rome," by Mr. W. S. Robinson, is published by Messrs. Longmans, Green, & Co. It is a schoolbook pure and simple, designed for the upper and middle forms of the English schools, and as interesting in treatment as is possible for a text so crammed with statements of bare fact.

A new and revised edition of Mr. Stephen Paget's "Experiments on Animals," with an introduction by Lord Lister, is published by the Messrs. Putnam. It is a work particularly to be commended to the attention of the anti-vivisectionists, although they will hardly find its sober scientific method to their liking.

Mr. Basil Lubbock's "Round the Horn before the Mast" (Dutton), is a lively account, in sailor language, of a voyage from San Francisco to Queenstown in a sailing vessel. It is realistic enough, and the boy who reads it is likely to have some of his sea-going ideas shocked,—which perhaps may not be so bad a thing for him, after all.

The Chautauqua reading for this year includes a Russian element of interest, which is the explanation of Miss Isabel F. Hapgood's "Survey of Russian Literature, with Selections," just issued from the Chautauqua Press. The book is essentially a compilation of the opinions of Russian critics, in which character is its special value.

The series of "English Classics" published by Messrs. Longmans, Green, & Co. has just been increased by three volumes. Scott's "Lady of the Lake" is edited by Professor G. R. Carpenter, Irving's "Oliver Goldsmith" is edited by Dr. Lewis B. Semple, and a volume containing three of Tennyson's "Idyls of the King" is edited by Miss Sophie Chantal Hart.

To "Bell's Miniature Series of Painters" (Macmillan) have been added volumes on Murillo, Lord Leighton, and Holman Hunt, by Mr. George C. Williamson, editor of the series; and on Greuze and Millais, by Messrs. Harold Armitage and A. L. Baldry respectively. This valuable little series may now be had in attractive red leather binding, with a photogravure frontispiece to each volume.

The special Riverside Press editions to be issued this Spring by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., include Gabriel Naudé's "Instructions Concerning Erecting of a Library," in the English translation of John Evelyn; Emerson's essay on "Compensation," with an introduction by Mr. Bliss Perry; and a new translation, made by Mr. Curtis Hidden Page, of the songs and sonnets of Pierre de Ronsard.

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"La Lignée des Poètes Français au XIXe Siècle," by M. Charles Bonnier, is a pretty booklet published by the Oxford Clarendon Press. It contains a series of extracts from French poetry, from Lamartine and Vigny to Régnier and Verhæren, forming the "links in an unbroken chain" of development in form and thought. An essay "à la Mémoire de Stéphane Mallarmé" is given at the close of the volume.

While the best of our printing trade journals do not overlook altogether the artistic aspects of their subject, it is the technical and commercial phases that chiefly occupy their space. So there has long been not only room, but actual need, for such a periodical as "The Printing Art," lately launched by the University Press of Cambridge, which intends to deal with modern typography and book-making entirely from the artistic standpoint. To teach more by example than precept is the aim of the magazine, and to this end each issue will present, in its own general make-up and by means of inserted specimens of work produced by outside printers, an exhibit of the best ideas in current typographic taste. If "The Printing Art" can be held to the high level of its first issue, it must prove indispensable to everyone concerned in any way with the practice of typography.

In connection with a well-known English house, Messrs. Tennant & Ward of New York have begun publication of "The Cloister Library," a series of reprints devoted to the classics of meditative literature, under the editorship of Mr. A. R. Waller. Three volumes are now ready, comprising Sir Arthur Helps's "Thoughts in the Cloister and the Crowd," Saint Teresa's "Way of Perfection," and George Herbert's "The Temple."

A new work by Captain Hiram Martin Chittenden, author of "The American Fur Trade of the Far West," will be added next month to the "American Explorers Series" published by Mr. Francis P. Harper. "A History of Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River: Life and Adventures of Joseph La Barge, Pioneer Navigator and Indian Trader for Fifty Years Identified with the Commerce of the Missouri Valley," is the full title of the forthcoming book.

The four-volume reissue of John Fiske's "Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy" (Houghton) is made noticeable by the extensive introduction contributed by Professor Josiah Royce. This introduction, which fills nearly half of the first volume, is peculiarly necessary in the case of a work thirty years old, which the author never found opportunity to rewrite. These volumes are the first in a series of twenty-four which will give us a uniform library edition of Fiske's complete writings.

The latest addition to Mr. Leon H. Vincent's excellent series of studies of French society and letters in the seventeenth century is a volume on Molière (Houghton). In a style that never grows dull or prolix, the author has succeeded admirably—by a series of deft and felicitous allusions, rather than by the detailed biographical method—in bringing the noteworthy events in the career of the illustrious Frenchman before his readers.

A volume of "Assyrian and Babylonian Letters," edited by Professor Robert Francis Harper, is now added to the Decennial Publications of the University of Chicago. This volume represents the first fruits of a large undertaking, which is nothing less than the publication of the entire Kouyunjik Collection of the British Museum, which will require from thirty to forty volumes. We cannot recommend this volume to the general reader, for the excellent reason that the text is printed in cuneiform, without any translation.

Professor James Albert Woodburn is the author of a treatise upon "The American Republic and Its Government" (Putnam), which stands midway between Bryce and the ordinary text-book of elementary scope, and is designed for advanced high-school work or for the early years of the college. It is essentially a study of the national government in its history, its political philosophy, and its practical workings. There are, to be sure, two brief chapters on the states and territories, but these are clearly in the nature of an appendix to the main work. Professor Woodburn's volume seems to us an eminently successful production, and one that will be found highly useful by teachers of political science.

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